

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A connection strip, comprising:  
a plastic housing;  
insulation-piercing terminal contact elements arranged in said plastic housing;  
shielding plates arranged between said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements; and  
at least one base rail connected to said shielding plates, said shielding plates and said base rail being integrally formed from a metal sheet with each shielding plate being connected to said base rail via a web and being arranged rotated approximately 90° with respect to said base rail.
13. (Previously Presented) A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:  
said shielding plates are spaced from said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements.
14. (Previously Presented) A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:  
said shielding plates are electrically insulated from said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements.
15. (Previously Presented) A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:  
said web includes a substantially 90 degree twist;  
said shielding plates and said base rail are substantially flat.
16. (Previously Presented) A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:  
a width of said web is narrower than a width of said shielding plates.
17. (Currently Amended) A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:  
one end of each of said webs is connected to said base rail and is substantially parallel with ~~said~~ a base rail plane;

another end of each said webs is connected to said shielding plate and is substantially parallel with ~~said a~~ plane of said shielding plate.

18-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:  
said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements are arranged on a first side of said housing and extend toward a middle of said housing;  
said base rail is arranged on a second side of said housing substantially diametrically opposite said first side of said housing;  
said shielding plates extend from said base rail toward said middle of said housing.

26. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 13, wherein:  
said shielding plates are electrically insulated from said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements.

27. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 26, wherein:  
said web includes a substantially 90 degree twist;  
said shielding plates and said base rail are substantially flat.

28. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 27, wherein:  
a width of said web is narrower than a width of said shielding plates.

29. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 28, wherein:  
one end of each of said webs is connected to said base rail and is substantially parallel with a base rail plane;  
another end of each said webs is connected to said shielding plate and is substantially parallel with a plane of said shielding plate.

30. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 29, wherein:

said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements are arranged on a first side of said housing and extend toward a middle of said housing;

said base rail is arranged on a second side of said housing substantially diametrically opposite said first side of said housing;

said shielding plates extend from said base rail toward said middle of said housing.

31. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 13, wherein:

said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements are arranged on a first side of said housing and extend toward a middle of said housing;

said base rail is arranged on a second side of said housing substantially diametrically opposite said first side of said housing;

said shielding plates extend from said base rail toward said middle of said housing.

32. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 14, wherein:

said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements are arranged on a first side of said housing and extend toward a middle of said housing;

said base rail is arranged on a second side of said housing substantially diametrically opposite said first side of said housing;

said shielding plates extend from said base rail toward said middle of said housing.

33. (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim 15, wherein:

said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements are arranged on a first side of said housing and extend toward a middle of said housing;

said base rail is arranged on a second side of said housing substantially diametrically opposite said first side of said housing;

said shielding plates extend from said base rail toward said middle of said housing.